
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY
OF, AND DRAFT PROPOSED LEGISLATION RELATING TO, THE CARE OF
RESCUED ANIMALS AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR, AND IMMUNITY FROM,
CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LIABILITY FOR THE CARE OF RESCUED
ANIMALS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii has experienced incidents of animals in
2 need of rescue and veterinary care; and

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4 WHEREAS, Hawaii currently has no Good Samaritan law
5 relating to the care of rescued animals and reimbursement, or
6 immunity from civil and criminal liability for, that care; and

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8 WHEREAS, many states have some form of Good Samaritan law
9 relating to caring for animals; and

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11 WHEREAS, Wyoming has enacted legislation that provides
12 protection for individuals in possession of a stray animal that
13 subsequently dies, provided that the death was not the result of
14 mistreatment or wilful neglect by the person; and

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16 WHEREAS, Vermont has enacted legislation that provides
17 immunity for veterinarians and other individuals who, in good
18 faith, provide care and treatment for an animal during an
19 emergency, under certain conditions; and

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21 WHEREAS, Washington has enacted legislation that provides
22 immunity from liability for licensed veterinarians who report
23 suspected incidents of unlawful animal cruelty, under certain
24 conditions; and
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1 WHEREAS, South Carolina has enacted legislation that
2 provides immunity from civil and criminal liability for
3 individuals, including licensed veterinarians, who, in good
4 faith and without compensation, render emergency care or
5 treatment to a domestic animal that is abandoned, ill, injured,
6 or in distress; and
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8 WHEREAS, North Dakota has enacted legislation that provides
9 immunity from civil and criminal liability for certain
10 individuals for acts taken or omitted while attempting to comply
11 with the State's provisions regarding the humane treatment of
12 animals; and
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14 WHEREAS, Ohio has enacted legislation that permits any
15 person to take possession of an animal to protect it from
16 neglect, permits any person to enter any place in which an
17 animal is impounded, exempts from liability for actions for
18 entry for the purpose of providing the animal with necessary
19 food, water, or proper attention, and permits collection from
20 the animal's owner or necessary expenses for food and attention;
21 and
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23 WHEREAS, conducting a study of Good Samaritan laws
24 regarding animal protection throughout the United States is the
25 first step toward Hawaii legislation regarding this issue; now,
26 therefore,
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
30 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative
31 Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study of, and draft
32 proposed legislation relating to, the care of rescued animals
33 and reimbursement for, and immunity from, civil and criminal
34 liability for the care of rescued animals; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
37 Bureau is further requested to submit findings and
38 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
39 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to convening of the
40 2017 Regular Session; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
3 Legislative Reference Bureau.
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OFFERED BY:

Lindalchingane

MAR 11 2015

